

# Claims

[c1] WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for error detection and mutual locking of at least two switches that sequentially connect motors to a converter, the device comprising:

a converter sending switching signals to the at least two switches, wherein the converter, prior to each switching action, checks a switched-off state of all of the at least two switches.

[c2] 2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the converter performs a current measurement for checking the switched-off state.

[c3] 3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the converter sends an error message when one of the at least two switches is in a switching state that is different from a switching state preset by the switching signals.

[c4] 4. The device according to claim 1, comprising signal leads connected to the converter.

[c5] 5. The device according to claim 4, wherein the signal leads are connected via an external switching device to the converter, wherein the external switching device re-

ceives the switching signals from the converter.